This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn): Device for the remelting of glass bars (2);

with at least one receiving shell (1) which has an inlet at its upper end for the receiving of the glass bar (2), and an outlet at its other end for the running-off of the melt;

with a crucible (3) which is located underneath the receiving shell (1), is open at the top and has a runoff (3,) at its bottom;

with a heating arrangement (5) for heating the crucible contents:

the under-edge of the receiving shell (1) is located, for the avoidance of a tapering of the glass stream, at the height of the liquid level (7.1) of the melt bath (7) or above it;

following the crucible (3) there is engage a runoff shell (3.3);

to the runoff shell (3.3) there is assigned an arrangement for the generation of drops (needle or suction feeder).

2. (Withdrawn): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the heating arrangement for the heating up of the crucible contents comprises a coil (5) for the coupling-in of electric energy.

3. (Withdrawn): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the receiving shell (1) and the crucible (33) are arranged relatively to one another in such manner that the receiving shell (1) is enclosed by the crucible wall (3.2) at least on the lower part of its length.

4. (Withdrawn): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the outlet zone (1.1, 1.2) of the receiving shell (1) is tapered continuously or abruptly in the running out direction.

5. (Withdrawn): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the cross section contour of the inner surface of the receiving shell (1) is at least approximately equal to the cross section contour of the outer surface of the glass bar (2).

6. (Withdrawn): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the heating arrangement (4) is assigned to the runoff shell (3.3).

7. (Withdrawn): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the runoff shell (3.3) is offset with respect to the receiving shell (1).

8. (Withdrawn): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the receiving shell (1) is adjustable in its position relatively to the crucible (3), especially in its height.

9. (Currently amended): Process for the remelting of glass bars, ~~with the following features~~ comprising the following steps:

introducing a glass bar ~~is introduced~~ into ~~the~~ an upper end of a receiving shell;

providing a molten bath having a surface underneath the receiving shell ~~there is made available a molten bath with a surface~~;

positioning the receiving shell ~~is positioned in~~ such ~~manner~~ that ~~its~~ a lower edge of the receiving shell is located at the height of the surface or above it;

~~the~~ heating a lower end of the glass bar ~~is heated~~ to a temperature above ~~the~~ a softening temperature of the glass, resulting in a melt-off process at the lower end of the glass bar to produce a melt stream;

controlling the melt-off process ~~is controlled in~~ such ~~manner~~ that ~~a continuous~~ the melt stream continuously enters the molten bath proximate the surface with avoidance of a constriction; and

drawing off melt ~~is drawn off~~ from the molten bath by means of an arrangement for drop generation.

10. (Currently amended): Process according to claim 9, further comprising a crucible unit in which the receiving shell is disposed, characterized in that the ~~melting off~~ melt-off process of the glass bar is performed by ~~the~~ one of coupling of electric energy into the crucible unit, ~~or by~~ radiation heating elements, ~~or by~~ and burner heating.

11. (Currently amended): Process according to claim 9, characterized in that the ~~glass throughput~~ amount of the glass melt-off is controlled by ~~the means that~~ altering at least one of the following parameters ~~is altered~~:

~~by~~ adjusting the amount of ~~the supplied~~ energy supplied to the heating of the molten bath;

~~by~~ varying the spacing between the ~~under~~ lower edge of the receiving shell and the liquid surface of the molten bath; and

~~by a~~ choking of the glass stream emerging from the bath.

12. (Currently amended): Process according to claim 9, characterized in that each of the glass bars ~~used have in each case at least one end which closes off with~~ includes and end surface shaped as one of a convex form ~~or with~~ and a flat surface, in order to avoid an inclusion of gas ~~at the bar-to-bar impact point~~ in between the end surfaces of adjacent glass bars.